Communal riots over Ram Janam-bhoomi temple and Babari Mosque dispute

42. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons killed in the riots which broke out in various States as a sequel to the Ram Janam-bhoomi temple and Babari Mosque dispute at Ayodhya; and

(b) whether any foreign hand is suspected in fomenting these communal passions and disturbances, if so, what are the details thereof and what steps are being taken to counteract these forces?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House on receipt.

(b) No direct involvement of any foreign Govt. or agency in the dispute over the Ram Janam-bhoomi temple/ Babari Masjid has so far come to notice.

Full pension for government servants after the commutation period

43. SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the question of restoring the full pension payable to a retired employee when ten years have passed after the commutation of one-third of his pension; and

(b) If so, by when a decision is expected in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, some organisations representing pensioners filed writ petitions in 1983 in the Supreme Court seeking restoration of commuted value of pension. The Government have since submitted an equitable formulation to the Court for consideration. The Court's decision is now awaited.

Communal disturbances at Allahabad and other places of Uttar Pradesh

44. SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the main reasons for the recent communal disturbances at Allahabad and other places in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) what are the details of the loss of human life and property in the said disturbances; and

(c) Whether the persons responsible for these disturbances have been identified and apprehended, if so, what action has been taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) to (c) Serious communal incidents have recently taken place at Allahabad, Mussaffirkhana, Meerut, Neoria and Shahjanpur in Uttar Pradesh. These incidents are the handiwork of miscreants and anti-social elements. As per available information, in these incidents 48 persons were killed, 145 persons sustained injuries and property worth Rs. 10.42 lakhs (aprox.) was destroyed.

In all these incidents, the Government of Uttar Pradesh took appropriate measures, preventive and punitive under the law to control the situation and to deal with the miscreants. In Allahabad alone, the Government of Uttar Pradesh arrested 1,177 persons and these persons are being dealt with under the provisions of the law.

Reservation for SC/ST and backward classes in Assam

45. SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any discontentment amongst the students belonging to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes and backward classes in Assam against the reservation policy of the State Government; and